GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1424
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2001
AWARDS TO SANSKRIT SCHOLARS
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV;T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give cash awards to Sanskrit Scholars every year ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria fixed for selecting subjects and the awardees;

(d) whether Vedic Research Centres are also included for selecting the awards;

(e) if so, the details in this regard;

(f) whether any such award has been proposed for other Indian languages also; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b) A scheme of President's Award of Certificate of Honour to eminent Scholars in classical languages has been in operation since 1958. Under this scheme 15 awards in Sanskrit, 1 in Pali/Prakrit and 3each in Arabic and Persian are given annually. It has also been decided to introduce from next year the Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman for young scholars in the age groupof 30-40. It will comprise 5 awards in Sanskrit, 1 each in Pali/Prakrit, Arabic and Persian.

(c) (d) & (e) Recommendations for these awards are invited every year from the Central and State Governments, Vice Chancellors of all Indian Universities and deemed Universities, Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas and Adarsh Sanskrit Pathshalas, the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratisthan, Ujjain and from all previous awardees of the Certificate of Honour. The recommendations received are scrutinized by a Preliminary Selection Committeeconstituted for this purpose and their decisions are submitted to the Minister for Human Resource Development, the Prime Minister of India and then finally to the President of India for approval. The Names of the awardees are announced by the President's Secretariat on 15th August every year.

(f) & (g) The Sahitya Akademi gives 22 awards annually to the authors of outstanding books published in 22 Indian languages including Sanskrit. The Central Institute of Indian Languageshas a scheme of one annual award in each of 15 Indian Languages for original writings. The Central Institute of Hindi has six schemes under which 13 awards are given annually for outstanding work in Hindi (four for the teaching and propagation of Hindi, two for the development of technical and scientific literature, two for meritorious contribution to the Development of Hindi, two for research and one for foreign Hindischolars). The Central Hindi Directorate has a scheme that offers 19 awards annually to Hindi writers from non - Hindi Speaking States.

The National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Languages (NCPSL) has three schemes under whichawards are given to eminent Sindhi Scholars and litterateurs.